GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1651
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2003
EXPORT OF MARINE PRODUCTS
SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether inspite of having long sea shores the export of marine products from India is very negligible in global market;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to boost the exports of marine products;

(c) whether the Government are planning to allow mechanical fishing on a large scale by taking assistance of foreign countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) & (b) India is one of the leading exporters of marine products to the global export market. India occupied 16th position among the top exporting countries of the world during 2001 as per statistics published by the Food and Agriculture Organisation. In order to further increase the exports, Government have taken several steps, which include schemes for extending financial assistance to the seafood processing industry; steps to upgrade processing facilities to meet international standards of hygiene and quality; expansion of aquaculture; imparting training to aquaculture farmers to adopt sound management practices to prevent outbreak of diseases; assistance to produce value added products for exports; participation by the Marine Products Export Development Authority in international fairs; conducting overseas market surveys etc.,

(c) & (d) The Government have issued guidelines for operation of Indian owned deep sea fishing vessels in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) on 1-11-2002. The guidelines allow import of deep sea fishing vessels by Indian companiesfor operation in the Indian EEZ for boosting our production mainly directed to exports.